

Physical Geography of Europe



A Peninsula of Peninsulas

- On a map you will see that Europe is a large peninsula stretching to the west of Asia
- Europe itself has many smaller peninsulas
- Iberian, Italian, Balkan, Jutland, Scandinavian



- Because of these peninsulas, no locations in Europe are more than 300 miles from an ocean or sea
- How do you think this affects their way of life???

Northern Peninsulas

- The Scandinavian Peninsulas is occupied by the nations of Norway and Sweden



- More than any other place in Europe, this peninsula shows the results of the movement of glaciers during the Ice Age
- These glaciers scoured away the rich topsoil and left only thin rocky soil, that is hard to farm

Fjords

- Fjords- steep u-shaped valleys that connect to the sea and that filled with sea water when the glaciers melted



Another Northern Peninsula

- The Jutland Peninsula is directly across the North Sea from Scandinavia
- Forms the largest part of Denmark and a small part of Germany
- Contains gently rolling hills and swampy low-lying areas



Southern Peninsulas

- The southern part of Europe contains three large peninsulas

Iberian Peninsula- home to Spain and Portugal

-The Pyrenees Mountains block off this peninsula from the rest of Europe



2. Italian Peninsula

- Home to Italy
- Extends into the Mediterranean Sea and has about 4,700 miles of coastline



3. Balkan Peninsula

- Bordered by the Adriatic, Mediterranean, and Aegean Seas
- It is mountainous, so transportation is difficult



Islands

- Another important feature of Europe is its islands
- The larger islands are
 - Great Britain
 - Ireland
 - Iceland
 - Greenland

- Smaller islands are
 - Corsica
 - Sardinia
 - Sicily
 - Crete

Mountains and Uplands

- Mountains in Europe are viewed as walls because they separate groups of people

- How do you think this affects their way of life?

The Alps

- The Alps is the most famous mountain chain in Europe



ALPS

- The Alps cross France, Italy, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, and the northern Balkan Peninsula.
- Provides opportunity for skiing, hiking, and other outdoor activities





Uplands

- Mountains and uplands differ from one another in elevation
- Uplands- hills or very low mountains that may also contain mesas and high plateaus
- About one-sixth of French lands are located in the uplands called the Massif Central



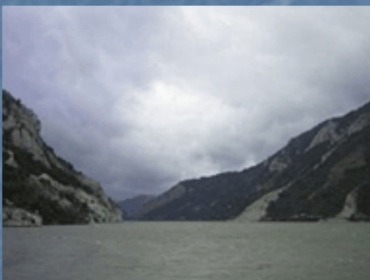
Rivers

- Stretching across Europe is a network of rivers that bring people and goods together
- Rivers are used to transport goods and have aided in the movement of ideas

EUROPE



- The Danube and the Rhine have served as water highways for centuries



- The Danube cuts through the heart of Europe from east to west touching 9 countries, over its 1, 771 mile length
- It links Europeans to the Black Sea
- The Rhine flows 820 miles from the interior of Europe north to the North Sea

Fertile Plains

- One of the most fertile agricultural regions of the world is the Northern European Plain.
- Stretches across France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Germany and Poland.

Resources

- Europe has an abundant supply of two natural resources....coal and iron.

